

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of
SATOU et al.
Application Number: To be Assigned
Filed: Concurrently Herewith
For: A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. HITA.0542

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant has amended the claims by deleting claims 17-37. Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: